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Public Invited to Visit Historic Rhododendron Garden

Reedsport, Ore. – The public is invited to visit the O.H. Hinsdale Rhododendron Garden, east of Reedsport along Highway 38, on Saturday, May 12 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coos Bay District staff and American Rhododendron Society members will be on hand to answer questions and give tours.

“It will be a great opportunity for people to see this historic garden in bloom,” said Dennis Turowski, the BLM’s Umpqua Field Manager. Visitors will also see the results of the BLM and the American Rhododendron Society’s ongoing efforts to restore the garden.

Those interested in visiting the garden should check-in at the interpretive kiosk at the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area. Visitors will be shuttled to the garden.

The BLM acquired the rhododendron garden and Spruce Reach Island, across Highway 38 from the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area, in 1994. The unique woodland garden is a historic resource that is potentially eligible for inclusion on the Natural Register of Historic Places. The garden contains hundreds of rhododendrons and azalea plants, some over 100 years old.

Additional information about the public tour can be obtained by calling Bob Golden of the BLM at 541-756-0100.

About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 245 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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